

HIV Among Youth in the US: Protecting a Generation PSA (:60)

HIV is the virus that causes AIDS. Without treatment, it can lead to illness and early death. About 1.1 million people are living with HIV in the United States. One out of every four new HIV infections is among youth, ages 13 to 24. Gay, bisexual, and African American youth are most at risk. Most young people with HIV aren't even aware they're infected and can unknowingly pass the virus on to others.

Risk factors for youth include: having sex, multiple sex partners, sex without a condom, sex with older partners who are more likely to be infected, and injecting drugs.

Alcohol and drug use can lead to risky behavior.

Young people need to know the facts about HIV, understand their risks, and youth-at-risk need to be tested.

Parents, schools, and community-based programs can help prevent HIV among youth.

To learn more, visit www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns.